

Message Text

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17

ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SS-20 A-01 OPR-02 NEA-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CU-04 DRC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

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CANBERRA FOR DEPSEC'S PARTY/SY AGENT; DEPT FOR A/SY/I/PIB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC (DEPUTY SECRETARY'S EAST ASIAN VISIT)

SUBJ: DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH'S EAST ASIAN TRIP - FEB/MAR 1974

INTELLIGENCE

REF: A. FBIS BANGKOK D190621Z FEB 1974

B. BANGKOK 2583

C. BANGKOK 2956

SUMMARY: THE THAI AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS HAS NOT ACCENTED THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT. THE SECURITY SITUATION IN BANGKOK HAS NOT APPRECIABLY CHANGED SINCE FEBRUARY 15 AND THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS OF IMPENDING DEMONSTRATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PRESS HAS NOT PLAYED UP THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT. THE FOREIGN MINISTER ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 19 THAT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY WOULD VISIT DURING MARCH AND THAT DISCUSSIONS WOULD CENTER ON THE THAI REQUEST FOR GREATER EMPHASIS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. (REF A). THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR GENERAL TOLD THE PRESS FEBRUARY 22 THAT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY WOULD ARRIVE MARCH 5 AND CALL
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ON THE PRIME AND FOREIGN MINISTERS. "THE NATION" HEADLINED

A SHORT ARTICLE FEBRUARY 22 "RUSH TALKS WILL BE ECONOMIC."

2. THE SECURITY SITUATION IN BANGKOK HAS NOT APPRECIABLY CHANGED SINCE REF B. SINCE THE VISIT OF JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER TANAKA, THERE HAS ONLY BEEN ONE MAJOR STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN THE BANGKOK AREA. THIS DEMONSTRATION CRITICIZED THE RTG OVER THE BAN NA SAI LOOTING AND BURNING INCIDENT (REF C). POLICE AND SECURITY REPORTS INDICATE NO STUDENT OR OTHER GROUPS ARE PREPARING FOR DEMONSTRATIONS DURING THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT.

3. MOST OF THE UNIVERSITIES HAVE JUST COMPLETED FINAL EXAMINATIONS AND MANY STUDENTS HAVE RETURNED HOME. SOME ARE INVOLVED IN THE DEMOCRACY TEACHING CAMPAIGN. THERE IS THUS A TIME LAG IN MASSING STUDENTS FOR A DEMONSTRATION. MOST OF THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS ARE STILL IN SESSION AND NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT THE POLICE ARE INVOLVED IN HEADING OFF A RUMBLE BETWEEN TWO TRADITIONAL ANTAGONISTS. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THESE ACTIVITIES AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT.

4. THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME HOSTILE ACTION BEING INITIATED BY A TERRORIST GROUP IS ALWAYS PRESENT BUT TO DATE NO SUCH INDICATIONS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED. LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO ALL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT AND ARE PROVIDING APPROPRIATE INTELLIGENCE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICE.
MASTERS

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